

Daylami language

The **Daylami language**, also known as *Daylamite*, *Deilami*, *Dailamite*, or *Deylami* (Deilami: دیلما, from the name of the Daylam region), is an extinct language that was one of the northwestern branch of the Iranian languages. It was spoken in northern Iran, specifically in the mountainous area in Gīlān, Mazandaran, and Ghazvin Provinces.

Parviz Natel Khanlari listed this language as one of Iranian dialects spoken between the 9th and 13th centuries. Istakhri, a medieval Iranian geographer, has written about this language, as did Al-Muqaddasi, a medieval Arab geographer, who wrote "they have an obscure language and they use the phoneme *khe* /x/ a lot."^[2] Abū Eshāq Ṣābī had a similar report on people in the Deylam highlands who spoke a distinct language.^[3]

According to Wilferd Madelung, in the early Islamic period the language of the Deylamites was a northwestern Iranian language. One of the characteristics of this language was an added ī sound between consonants and ā (Lāhījān=Lāhījān, Amīrkā=Amīrkā).^[4]

See also

- Tabari language, another Caspian language
- Gilaki language

Notes

1. Mehdi Marashi, Mohammad Ali Jazayery, Persian studies in North America: studies in honor of Mohammad Ali Jazayery, Ibex Publishers, Inc., 1994, ISBN 0-936347-35-X, 9780936347356, p. 269
2. Mehdi Marashi, Mohammad Ali Jazayery, Persian studies in North America: studies in honor of Mohammad Ali Jazayery, Ibex Publishers, Inc., 1994, ISBN 0-936347-35-X, 9780936347356, p. 269
3. Wilferd Madelung. Abū Ishāq al-Ṣābī on the Alids of Tabaristān and Gīlān. Journal of Near Eastern Studies, Vol. 26, No. 1 (Jan., 1967), pp. 17-57, University of Chicago Press
4. Wilferd Madelung, Deylamites Encyclopædia Iranica (<http://www.iranica.com/newsite/index.isc?Article=http://www.iranica.com/newsite/articles/unicode/v7f1/v7f123.html>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20090531020026/http://www.iranica.com/newsite/index.isc?Article=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iranica.com%2Fnewsite%2Farticles%2Funicode%2Fv7f1%2Fv7f123.html>) 2009-05-31 at the Wayback Machine

Deilami دیلما	
Native to	Iran
Region	South Caspian Sea, Alborz highlands
Era	900–1300AD ^[1]
Language family	Indo-European <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indo-Iranian ▪ Iranian ▪ Western Iranian ▪ Caspian ▪ Deilami
Writing system	Persian alphabet
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis)
Glottolog	<i>None</i>

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